

Message Text

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42

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OMB-01 SSM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

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R 011105Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2499

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KHARTOUM 2603

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SU, KU

SUBJECT: GOS COMMENTS ON KUWAIT DEVELOPMENTS

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT OF RECENT MEASURES IN KUWAIT SUSPENDING NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND TIGHTENING GOVERNMENT CONTROLS OVER PRESS, GOS OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN BONA MALWAL EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AND FULL SUPPORT OF THESE MEASURES. IN AUG 31 STATEMENT TO PRESS HE SAID MEASURES WOULD REMOVE ANY FOREIGN INFLUENCE ON KUWAITI NEWSPAPERS AND WOULD THUS INSURE THAT THEY WOULD FOLLOW GENUINE ARAB LINE. MALWAL CONCLUDED STATEMENT BY SAYING "WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN KUWAIT LATELY ADVERSELY Affected KUWAIT'S RELATIONS WITH HER SISTER COUNTRIES. IT WAS HEARTBURNING THAT SOME OF THE KUWAIT NEWSPAPERS WERE SUPPORTING, WITHOUT APPARENT JUSTIFICATION, THE UNFAIR ATTACKS WHICH NON-KUWAITI AND ANTI-SUDANESE ELEMENTS WERE LAUNCHING AGAINST THE MAY REVOLUTION AND ITS LEADERSHIP. WE KNOW FOR CERTAIN THAT, IN SO DOING, THOSE NEWSPAPERS

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DO NOT REPRESENT THE GENUINE WISHES AND AIMS OF THE

SISTER PEOPLE OF KUWAIT.". END UNCLASSIFIED

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2. DURING MEETING WITH FONMIN MAKKAWI AUG 31 ON OTHER MATTERS, HE TOLD CHARGE THAT GOS FULLY SUPPORTED KUWAITI MEASURES. HE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT FOREIGN ELEMENTS HAD STARTED TO "BUY" KUWAITI NEWSPAPERS AND THAT THESE WERE THEN USED AS VEHICLES FOR ANTI-SUDAN ARTICLES. HE WAS SPECIFICALLY CRITICAL OF AHMED JARALLAH (SIYASSA).

3. COMMENT: MAKKAWI SERVED AS AMBASSADOR TO KUWAIT IN LATE 60'S AND UNDERSTANDS WELL DOMESTIC POLITICAL BACKGROUND TO RECENT DEVELOPMENTS THERE. CONSIDERABLE GOS INTEREST IN AND APPROVAL OF KUWAITI ACTIONS STEMS FROM ITS GROWING IRRITATION OVER WHAT OFFICIALS HERE CONSIDERED TO BE PRO-LIBYAN/ANTI-SUDANESE LINE BEING TAKEN BY KUWAITI NEWSPAPERS. AL-RAI AL-AM WAS CONSIDERED TO BE MOUTHPIECE OF LIBYANS IN KUWAIT. GOS NOW PROBABLY BELIEVES THAT WITH BOTH BEIRUT AND KUWAIT NEWSPAPERS EFFECTIVELY DENIED TO LIBYANS, QADDAFI WILL HAVE LESS CAPACITY TO CARRY OUT HIS ANTI-SUDANPROPOSGANDA IN ARAB WORLD. BOGOSIAN

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